

REC. 1 JUL 1987
U.S. CAPITOL

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1 JUL 1987

To: The Director

From: Dave Gries

☒ We plan to prepare an
answer for your signature.

☐ We plan to prepare an
answer for my signature.

☐ Dave, I prefer to _____

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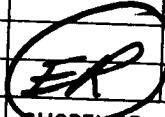
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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT**ROUTING SLIP**

TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X (Has Copy)		
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR		X		
4	D/ICS		X		
5	DDI				
6	DDA		X		
7	DDO		X		
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/OCA	X (Advance Copy)			
14	D/PAO				
15	D/PERS				
16	D/Ex Staff		X		
17	C/CI/DO				
18	D/CCISCMS				
19	NIO/FDIA				
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21					
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SUSPENSE ~~11 Sep~~

Remarks To all: D/OCA has advised DCI that response will be prepared for his signature.

 Executive Secretary
1 Jul 87

Date

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June 23, 1987

THOMAS K. LATIMER, STAFF DIRECTOR
MICHAEL J. O'NEIL, CHIEF COUNSEL
THOMAS R. SWEETON, ASSOCIATE COUNSELHonorable William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Judge Webster:

Last February, the Committee issued a public report entitled, "U.S. Counterintelligence and Security Concerns - 1986." The report noted a number of weaknesses in our ability to undertake counterintelligence operations against espionage by other countries. A central theme was that, while any one of the weaknesses would be of individual concern, taken together, they signified an emerging pattern of poor management in U.S. counterintelligence and security programs. The report stressed the need to take more aggressive action and made sixteen findings and fourteen recommendations.

Among the principal areas of concern highlighted were:

- weaknesses in personnel selection and the need for a coordinated review of community hiring practices;
- a need for a better exchange of counterintelligence data among agencies;
- a critical need to standardize, expedite and fund the security clearance process; and
- a greater focus on financial matters in the conduct of background investigations.

The report also noted a concern that "once the glare of public scrutiny leaves the problems of espionage and security . . . the political will to advance security programs and maintain high levels of attention and necessary funding for their implementation will not be sustained."

This Committee does not intend for its report to be the final word on these matters. I have asked Tony Beilenson, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Evaluation, to follow through on the report and to undertake a continuing examination of the intelligence community's response to the Committee's findings and recommendations. I anticipate that the Subcommittee will hold hearings on these and related matters in the fall. Prior to that

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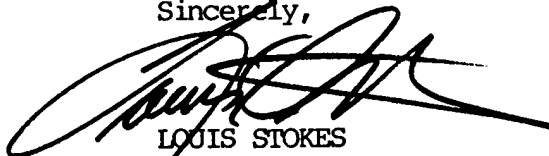
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time, I am requesting that you and your staff carefully review the Committee's report and respond by September 11, 1987 on what specific steps the community is taking in response to the Committee's findings and recommendations.

I know you agree that we cannot simply become concerned about security when we have a major counterintelligence failure or a new espionage case. Too often in the past, we have had lip service paid to these critical issues when they are in the forefront of media attention only to see concerted long-term action get lost in the bureaucracy.

The full Committee and the Subcommittee, under Chairman Beilenson, is prepared to work with you in reaching what I know are mutual goals in improving our counterintelligence and security posture, to include assistance in implementing new programs and funding. I look forward to your response on the Committee's recommendations and stand ready to address these matters constructively in the coming months.


Sincerely,



LOUIS STOKES
Chairman

OCA 87-2919
17 July 1987

NOTE FOR: The Director

FROM: Dave Gries 

SUBJECT: Chairman Stokes' Letter Concerning
Counterintelligence--Recommended Response Prepared by
the Intelligence Community Staff

Chairman Stokes wrote you on 23 June concerning a public report of the House Intelligence Committee entitled "U. S. Counterintelligence and Security Concerns-1986." The Chairman's letter explained that the principal areas of concern described in the report would be reviewed at hearings in the Fall. In the meantime, the letter asked that you review these areas of concern and respond to the Committee by 11 September on what the Community is doing to address them.

The Intelligence Community staff has drafted a response which confirms your commitment to meet the 11 September deadline in the first paragraph. The response also says that you prefer not to reopen discussions concerning the Committee's findings. The response mentions a number of reports on counterintelligence performance that either have been sent to the Committee or will be sent to the Committee.

I believe the second paragraph of the response prepared by the Intelligence Community staff will fall on deaf ears at the Committee. Although we may not like or accept the Committee's criticism of our counterintelligence performance, we should not decline to address the criticism. Therefore I recommend we drop the second paragraph.

Although the third paragraph contains useful information, I believe it should be recast somewhat as follows:

In the meantime, I draw your attention to our report of June 24 delivered to Mr. Latimer concerning implementation of the President's REPORT TO THE CONGRESS ON THE NATION'S COUNTERINTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COUNTERMEASURE PLANS, PROGRAMS AND CAPABILITIES. A second report in this series will be distributed prior to Thanksgiving. I hope these will be helpful to you.

cc: DDCI
EXDIR
D/ICS

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